

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO JAMES A.  
GALLAGHER

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to pay tribute to James A. Gallagher, who is retiring after 28 years as the voice and face of the San Mateo County Transit District, which operates throughout my Congressional District. For almost three decades Mr. Gallagher has worked to improve our community, and he has left a lasting mark on the agency and the Bay Area as a whole. Both his colleagues and the citizens of San Mateo County will miss his leadership.

Born in Fresno, California, James Gallagher joined the United States Marine Corps where he served our country for two years. After his service in the Corps, James worked for several newspapers throughout the region, before becoming the sportswriter, copy-editor and city editor for the Redwood City Tribune in my district.

James left the newspaper industry to become the fifth employee hired at the San Mateo County Transit District in March 1976. Back then the transit district operated in a dozen cities in San Mateo County and served 7,500 riders per day. Today, SamTrans connects 100,000 people each day to all 20 communities in the county, as well as cities from San Francisco to Gilroy, California. SamTrans has become a major player in transportation in the Bay Area through its gifted employees, and due, in no small measure; to the perseverance of Mr. Gallagher. James rose up through the ranks at SamTrans, from the Public Information Officer to the Director of Administration and Marketing and finally the Deputy General Manager.

Mr. Speaker, when James went to Stanford University, he would have to race his teammates each week to make the traveling squad for the university track team. His friends like to say that even then he was racing to catch the bus. At SamTrans, James worked tirelessly to ensure that not one resident would have to run to catch the bus. He will be remembered as someone who, among other things, attempted to make the county accessible for those who were underprivileged, underserved and underrepresented. Mr. Speaker, James A. Gallagher's contribution to the growth of SamTrans cannot be measured or replicated. I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to James A. Gallagher, and wishing him well on his well-deserved retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MATT  
HEMINGWAY

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, the 2004 Summer Olympic Games are returning to the birthplace, Athens, Greece. The Games are an opportunity for the world's athletes to showcase their talents, and have the possibility to earn the distinction of the World's best of their sport.

Matt Hemingway, a relative of Ernest Hemingway, has trained rigorously to earn a spot on the 2004 American Olympic team; to be classified as one of America's best high jumpers. Hemingway cleared 7 feet, 7.25 inches, winning the silver medal. The gold medal winner, Sweden's Stefan Holm, jumped 7-9.

At the 2004 Olympic trials, Matt placed second with a jump of 7-6.5, a foot more than his 6' 7" frame. In 2000, Hemingway reached his personal best height of 7-9.5, the best jump in the world that year; earning him the 2000 United States Indoor title.

Matt occupied a two year hiatus by acting as a whitewater river guide in Colorado. However, his passion for the sport and the thrill of competition called him back to competing. Matt now trains by playing basketball and running in the Colorado hills. Colorado's high altitude and temperate climate provides an excellent environment for Olympic caliber athletes to train and live.

Mr. Speaker, the accomplishments of the 2004 Olympic athletes are awe-inspiring. Matt and the other Olympians have made us all proud.

HONORING MARTHA VIRGINIA  
PENNINO

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Martha Virginia Pennino, a former vice chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Mrs. Pennino died September 17, 2004 at Inova Fairfax Hospital at the age of eighty-six.

Mrs. Pennino was born in 1918, in Roanoke, Virginia and was raised in Gloucester, Massachusetts. She received a bachelor's degree from Emerson College in Boston.

Mrs. Pennino served three terms on the Vienna Town Council prior to being elected to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in November 1967, representing what was then the Centreville District. From 1968 to 1991 Mrs. Pennino was at the center of nearly every major decision made in Fairfax County. She was involved in such projects as the Dulles Toll Road, Reston Hospital Center, South

Lakes High School, the Reston Community Center and the Reston Regional Library. Mrs. Pennino played an instrumental role in the planned community of Reston, which was taking shape when she took office. She became one of the longest-serving members of the Board of Supervisors spending 24 years on the board. Mrs. Pennino served as Vice Chairman for 17 years.

During her many years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Mrs. Pennino was deeply committed to helping the poor and homeless. She pushed for the building of the Embury Rucker shelter for the homeless, supported building low-cost housing and buying and renovating the run-down Stonegate apartment complex. Prior to the construction of the shelter, she even provided cots in her supervisor's office and opened it at night to people with nowhere else to go.

Mrs. Pennino received many accolades for her work in Fairfax County. In 1985, she was awarded the Tom Bradley Regional Leadership award from the National Association of Regional Councils. The group cited her efforts in developing the first energy policy for a metropolitan area; the region's car-pool program and a fair-share housing program. In 1986, Washingtonian magazine named her "Washingtonian of the Year."

Mrs. Pennino was also involved with many community boards and foundations. She was a member of the advisory board of the Northern Virginia Youth Services Coalition, director of the Northern Virginia Community Foundation, a commissioner on the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and a member of the Board of Visitors of George Mason University. Additionally, Mrs. Pennino served as president of the Virginia Association of Counties of the Virginia Municipal League and was a member of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments for 17 years, holding posts of president and chairman.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to express my gratitude to Martha Virginia Pennino for her service to Fairfax County. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding Mrs. Pennino's past accomplishments and remembering her dedication to her community.

TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL CHARLES  
COMPTON

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Corporal Charles Compton, a World War II veteran who resides in the Fifth Congressional District of Florida.

On August 16, 2004, I had the pleasure of recognizing Corporal Compton for his heroism and bravery as a U.S. Marine who fought in the Second World War from May 1943 until November 1945.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

After serving his country for just over a year fighting in the Pacific, Corporal Compton was injured in a blast in June of 1945. The force of the blast knocked him unconscious. He was evacuated to a hospital ship but returned to the front lines to continue fighting the enemy.

I presented Corporal Compton with the Purple Heart, the oldest military decoration in the world, more than 50 years overdue.

Though he earned this honor, he never received it from the Defense Department and I am honored to have the opportunity to present to him the Purple Heart for his selfless devotion to duty and service to the United States.

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IN HONOR OF ANGELICA  
HARRISON

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**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Angelica "Angel" Harrison for her outstanding commitment to serving her community. She is being honored today, September 21, 2004, with the Mary T. Norton Memorial Award by the United Way of Hudson County at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Secaucus, New Jersey.

Mrs. Harrison has shown remarkable passion for helping the homeless. She has helped countless people make the transition from poverty to self-sufficiency and has helped raise critical funding for those in need. For 33 years, she has worked at the Hudson County Division of Welfare, serving as a social worker, supervisor, administrative advisor, and deputy director. Since 1983, Mrs. Harrison has been the director of the agency.

Mrs. Harrison's dedication to public service is demonstrated by her participation in numerous agencies throughout the community. She is a member of the State Medicaid Planning Committee, the State Corrective Action Panel, and the Hudson County Child Care Committee. Mrs. Harrison has also shown great leadership, serving as a board member for the Human Services Advisory Council; chairperson for the Comprehensive Emergency Assistance System; two-time past president of the New Jersey County Welfare Directors' Association; and current president of the Hudson County Pension Committee.

Over the years, Mrs. Harrison has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of those in need. She opened a food pantry at the County Welfare Agency to help those ineligible to receive food stamps. In addition, she established the Supportive Assistance to Individuals and Families (SAIF) program, which aids clients in the transition from welfare to self-sufficiency. She successfully secured a \$1.8 million grant for this program in Hudson County.

Mrs. Harrison was born and raised in Jersey City, New Jersey. She received her bachelor's degree in both education and psychology from Jersey City State College.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Angelica Harrison for her remarkable work in Hudson County and her outstanding contributions to the social welfare and outreach programs in her community.

IN HONOR OF THE DEDICATED  
SERVICE OF MARVIN C. SHARP  
TO THE DELAWARE FIRE-  
FIGHTER COMMUNITY

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, during my service as a Member of the House of Representatives, it has been my honor and privilege to rise and pay tribute to organizations and people who really make a difference in the Delaware community. Today, I rise to recognize Marvin C. Sharp, President of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association (DVFA).

Marvin C. Sharp has been an extremely active and influential member of the fire prevention community for years. President Sharp is a Life Member of the Carlisle Fire Company of Milford where he served in several capacities as an emergency responder—including Ambulance Captain. He was "Fireman of the Year" in 1980 and "Ambulance Attendant of the Year" in 1986.

Marvin Sharp was formerly the President of Kent County Volunteer Firemen's Association. He served as President of the Kent County Ambulance Association and as President of the Delaware State Ambulance Association. As a result of his demonstrated leadership Marvin was subsequently nominated and elected as the Second Vice President of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association in 2001. He was elected First Vice President in 2002, and President in 2003. This year he was elected Fourth Vice President of the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association. His various positions within the fire services community are a testament to his dedication to the public, as well as the faith that President Sharp's leadership resulted in an amendment to the by-laws of the DVFA which allowed the Wilmington Fire Department, our state's only fully career fire department, to join the Association as a full member. In an era where some volunteer and career fire departments are experiencing problems in working together, Delaware again stands tall by including every fire company in Delaware under the DVFA banner.

The Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association has been served well by President Marvin C. Sharp. Along with my fellow Delawareans, I would like to commend Marvin, not only for his tireless efforts on behalf of the First State, but also for his tremendous contributions to the DVFA. Marvin is an exemplary model of commitment and excellence, and a valuable member of the Delaware community. I salute Marvin C. Sharp for his efforts to keep the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association a strong and vital part of Delaware.

HONORING THE COMMUNITY SERVICE OF CHRISTINE HUDDLESTON

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding community service of Christine Huddleston, who has taken care

of the needs of the homeless for 50 years. In fact, she has been running a homeless shelter in my hometown of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, for nearly 18 of those years.

Room at the Inn is a clean, safe place for the homeless to get their lives back in order. While Christine compassionately nurtures those who stay at the shelter, she expects everyone to pull his or her own weight. Accordingly, residents are expected to get gainful employment and do their fair share of chores around the facility.

She has helped everyone from college professors to the working poor get back on their feet again. That's why many who stay at the shelter lovingly refer to her as "Ma." Christine's unique understanding of human nature has allowed her to help people strengthen their self esteem and make a better life for themselves. But make no mistake about it, she is not a push over and knows when to practice tough love.

Christine's dedication to her work and the Room at the Inn has garnered her much support and admiration from the community. What started out as a small operation supported by only seven local churches has evolved into a community-wide effort aided by 70 churches, the business community and the city of Murfreesboro. I commend Christine for her hard work and tireless service to the homeless. She epitomizes what it means to be a Christian.

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CONGRATULATING ST. MARY'S  
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH  
ANNIVERSARY

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**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, on the joyous occasion of its 100th anniversary.

This church has a rich history in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The first immigrants to the area from Syria and Lebanon traveled to our region in the 1890s. By 1904, there were about 35 families who grouped together to form the first parish of St. Mary. On March 13, 1904, Archimandrite Raphael Hawaweeney organized St. Mary's Syrian Orthodox Men's Group. In the Spring of 1904, a young man named John Michael Curry Saba was ordained as the first priest of St. Mary's.

The parish bought the land on which to build a church at 132 High Street for \$300. From 1904 through 1908, the congregation gathered in a private home. In 1907, Father George Kattouf was ordained and became pastor of St. Mary's.

By 1907, the parish had grown to about 65 families. A Russian Orthodox contractor named Michael Hlipko offered to build the church for \$8,500.

St. Mary's was the first Antiochian parish established in the United States. On November 3, 1908, the parish received its official charter of incorporation for Luzerne County and the state of Pennsylvania. The official name was St. Mary's Syrian Greek Orthodox Catholic Church of Wilkes-Barre and vicinity.

The first liturgy was held in 1908 and the Church was consecrated by Bishop Raphael during a visit in 1911 to celebrate the burning of the church's mortgage.

A rectory was built in 1912 and the old part of the Church cemetery in Hanover Township was also acquired. Father Joseph Elia Xanthopoulos became the pastor in 1912 when Father George moved to Allentown. Father Joseph was fluent in Arabic and Greek, and he chanted in Byzantine. He started a Syrian school for young people, who had begun to chant with him during the service.

The community began to split in 1914 because the Syrian Mission in America began to divide. During this time, services were held at the church on High Street for those following the Russian Patriarch, and at 107 Blackman Street, for those following the Antiochian Patriarch.

Several pastors served the Church through the years: Father Daniel George, Father Abdallah Khoury, Father Constantine Abou-Adal, Archbishop Affirmos Ofeish and Father George Mitchell, Father Anthony Sakey, Father Nicholas Hussan and Father Herbert Nahas.

In 1958, the parishioners decided they wanted to build a new Church, Hall and Rectory. They chose a site at the south end of Main Street and purchased it for \$28,500 in 1964. This turned out to be a blessing in disguise, as the other three sites that had been considered were completely submerged in 16 feet of water by Hurricane Agnes in June 1972.

When Agnes hit Wilkes-Barre, 108 families from the parish were left homeless. The businesses of 35 parishioners were closed for months. Miraculously, the flood waters stopped just outside the parish hall doors, and the building became one of many shelters. The men and women of St. Mary's worked tirelessly to help the victims of the devastating flood.

In 1985, Father Edward Hughes became pastor of the Church, followed by Father Mark Sahady in 1994. Father Thomas Zain came to St. Mary's in 1994 and served as pastor until 1997. Father John Winfrey became pastor of the Church in 1997. The Very Reverend Father David Hester came to St. Mary's in 2000 and currently serves as pastor.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to represent a parish community with such a rich history. The parishioners at St. Mary's have preserved their heritage and kept meticulous records of their history to pass on to future generations, and I congratulate them on the joyful occasion of the Church's 100th anniversary.

**HONORING COLONEL ROBERT N. AGEЕ FOR HIS 32 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE MISSOURI AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Colonel Robert N. Agee, Vice Commander for 139th Airlift Wing at Rosecrans Air National Guard Base in St. Joseph, Missouri. Colonel Agee is retiring on October 1, 2004 after 32 years of service to the Missouri Air National Guard. Colonel Agee cur-

rently resides in St. Joseph with his wife Sheila, and together they have two daughters, Rachael and Jennifer, and a son R.J.

Colonel Agee was born on December 25, 1949 in St. Joseph. He joined the Missouri Air National Guard in 1970, and graduated from the first Air National Guard Officer Preparatory Academy in May of 1971. Following his graduation, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. Colonel Agee attended pilot training at Williams AFB in Arizona, and earned his pilot wings on September 9, 1972. In 1976, Colonel Agee graduated from Missouri Western with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration Management. Additionally, he has completed Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, and the Air War College.

Colonel Agee has performed duties in training, safety, tactics, standardization/evaluation and was the director of operations for the flying squadron prior to his current assignment. He was activated in December 1990 for Operation Desert Shield/Storm and served as the director of operations for the 180th Airlift Squadron in theater until their release from active duty in June 1991. In addition to training aircraft, he has flown the C-97G, KC-97L, C-130A, and the C-130H.

Among his military decorations are the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Outstanding United Award with the three oak leaf clusters and "V" device, Air Force Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, and Kuwait Liberation Medals from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

As the former Operations Group Commander he had responsibility for our units, the 180th Airlift Squadron, the 139th Operations Support Flight, the 139th Aerial Port Flight, and the 241st Air Traffic Control Squadron in addition to the Standardization/Evaluation section. These squadrons are the support and execution component of the C-130 airlift mission. The unit continuously supports real-world airlift commitments in the United States and overseas in addition to local air training.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending the career of Colonel Robert N. Agee, who has exemplified the qualities of dedication and service throughout his tenure with the Missouri Air National Guard.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO MATT ZISKA**

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Matt Ziska. Mr. Ziska recently received national recognition from the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) for his hard work and dedication in his field. The Departments of Homeland Security, Health and Human Services, Defense, Veterans Affairs, and FEMA, all partnered with the NDMS, to grant this award.

Mr. Ziska has been employed as a hazardous materials technician at the Tri-County Health Department based in Aurora. His advice to the Disaster Medical Assistance Team has helped them enhance and improve protective measures designed to safeguard against the dangers of hazardous materials.

Mr. Ziska was selected from a field of 130 team members.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in paying tribute to Matt Ziska, and wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

**HONORING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF AGUDAS ACHIM CONGREGATION AND RECOGNIZING THE MILITARY VETERANS OF THE CONGREGATION**

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Agudas Achim Congregation, a conservative synagogue located in the city of Alexandria, Virginia.

In conjunction with this anniversary, honor is being paid to the military veterans of the congregation throughout the Veteran's Day weekend of November 12-14, 2004.

Jewish servicemen and servicewomen have served and continue to serve proudly in all branches of the United States as career and reserve servicemen and servicewomen. From Bunker Hill and the Battle of Springfield (NJ) to Omaha Beach and the Battle of the Bulge, from Pusan, South Korea to the Mekong Delta in Vietnam as well as Afghanistan and Iraq, Jewish servicemen have worn the uniform of the United States proudly—defending democracy and the freedoms we all cherish as Americans.

We remember those who fearlessly paid the ultimate price in defending the United States of America during times of war. We also recall those who have bravely fought and returned home as well as those who continue to fight for the freedoms and liberties that make this nation great—the same freedoms and liberties such as freedom of religion that brought hundreds of thousands of Jewish people to the United States escaping despotism and religious tyranny.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to congratulate Agudas Achim Congregation on their 90th anniversary. I call upon my colleagues to join me in honoring the congregation's military veterans.

**TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT JOSEPH FALES**

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Staff Sergeant Joseph Fales, a World War II veteran who gave his life fighting against tyranny so that we might live free.

In honor of Memorial Day, I had the pleasure of recognizing Staff Sergeant Fales for his heroism and bravery as a U.S. Soldier who fought in the Second World War until his death in October 1943.

Staff Sergeant Fales served in the Army Air Force and heroically performed the perilous job of a waist gunner aboard a B-17 Bomber.

His plane was shot down over the Adriatic Sea, and an American Hero was lost. Sergeant Fales was only twenty years old.

I had the honor of presenting his family with medals Joseph Fales earned during his service to our nation. They included the World War II Victory Medal, the Honorable Service Lapel Button, the European Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one bronze star, the Good Conduct Medal, the Air Medal and the Purple Heart, the oldest military decoration in the world more than fifty years overdue.

I am humbled by the courage and sacrifice of Joseph Fales. I am thankful for the gift of freedom that he fought to protect. We must never forget Joseph Fales and those soldiers who paid the ultimate price on our behalf.

IN HONOR OF DR. HOWARD PARISH

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Howard Parish for his contributions to higher education and outstanding community service. He is being honored today, September 21, 2004, with the Louis T. Scialli Memorial Award by the Jersey City Education Association at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Secaucus, New Jersey.

For 40 years, Dr. Parish shared his passion for science in the classroom before retiring in 2002. He spent 37 years at the New Jersey City University, where he was a professor and chair of the Department of Geosciences. He also served as the director of International Studies. Dr. Parish played an integral part in establishing the Office of Grant Development, and was able to secure numerous grants for New Jersey City University.

Throughout the past 15 years, Dr. Parish has displayed a strong commitment to his community by participating in both local and national non-profit organizations, where he frequently dedicates his time to fundraising.

Dr. Parish has demonstrated his leadership skills by holding advisory positions for nearly a dozen organizations. He spent 10 years on the Board of Directors for the National Education Association and was chair of the National Education Association's Higher Education Caucus. He continues to be involved as the legislative liaison for educators in District 32 and serves as a consultant for the New Jersey Education Association.

Dr. Parish received his bachelor's degree in physical science from Jersey City State College and his master's degree in geological science from Rutgers University. He also holds a doctorate in geosciences from Columbia University.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Howard Parish for his years of dedicated service, both in the classroom and the community.

IN HONOR OF THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF NANCY GREEN TO THE DELAWARE FIREFIGHTER COMMUNITY

### HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, during my service as a Member of the House of Representatives, it has been my honor and privilege to rise and pay tribute to organizations and people who really make a difference in the Delaware community. Today, I rise to recognize Nancy Green, President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association (LADVFA).

Nancy Green joined the Harrington Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary in 1964. She is a Life Member of the Harrington Ladies Auxiliary, and has served as Vice President and President. Nancy also served as President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Kent County Firemen's Association.

Nancy's record of service to Delaware is exemplary. While a teacher in the public school system for 30 years, Nancy volunteered as a Delaware State Fire School instructor—teaching public fire safety education programs. Nancy is also a Library Commissioner at the Harrington Public Library, President of the Century Club, and the Newsletter Editor of her high school alumni association. With out a doubt, Nancy has proven her dedication to improving her community and our state.

The Ladies Auxiliaries are a very important element of the volunteer fire service. These organizations assist the firefighters by providing meals and beverages at the emergency scene. Auxiliaries also serve public dinners and conduct other fund-raising events to provide the fire companies with. Nancy's service included these important missions, and as President of the LADVFA all Delaware's Auxiliaries when she was elected as President.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association has been served well by President Nancy Green. She is an exemplary model of commitment and excellence and a valuable member of the Delaware community. I salute Nancy Green for her efforts to keep the Ladies Auxiliary of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association a strong and vital part of Delaware.

### HONORING LEE VICTORY'S LEGACY TO CHILDREN

### HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my friend, Lee Victory. It is only fitting that a year after his passing, his beloved hometown of Smyrna, TN, would name its recreation park after him.

I was there 20 years ago when the park first opened, largely due to Lee's efforts. Lee loved his family, and he loved Smyrna. He worked very hard to make the community a better place to live and was a leader in the development of its recreational parks.

Lee was involved with area youth long before Smyrna had a park. He was instrumental

in starting Little League and Babe Ruth baseball and youth football leagues. I'm sure his five sons—Kenneth "Coon," Billy, Eddie, E.A., and Carl David—had something to do with Lee's involvement in youth programs. Team sports, he probably knew, would help make his boys more responsible and keep them out of trouble, at least during practices and games.

Lee would later become the head of maintenance for the Smyrna Parks and Recreation Department. He also was well known for his annual fish fry, but his biggest legacy is to Smyrna's young people. This Saturday morning, in a fitting tribute to my friend just before the start of a ball game, Mayor Bob Spivey, "Coon" Victory and representatives from the soccer, girls' softball, Little League baseball and youth football teams will unveil a monument dedicating the Lee Victory Recreation Park.

This monument will be a reminder to all residents of Smyrna that Lee's contributions and efforts improved the quality of life for all, especially the children. I congratulate the town for honoring someone who gave so much of his time and energy ensuring that children had the opportunity to play sports and learn valuable skills.

CONGRATULATING THE CATHERINE MCAULEY CENTER ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the Catherine McAuley Center in Dallas, PA, on the occasion of its 20 years of service to homeless mothers and children in Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties.

Since 1984, the center has provided emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing, food, furniture, and support services to thousands of women and children in my district.

The Catherine McAuley Center is sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy and is named after their founder. Catherine McAuley devoted her life to serving others. Even on her deathbed, she is said to have told those around her to "be sure to have a comfortable cup of tea for them when I am gone."

Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to represent an organization whose mission is helping women in need. Please join me in congratulating the selfless staff, volunteers, and friends of the Catherine McAuley Center on 20 years of service to the women and children of Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties.

### HONORING FRANK AND ROSSIE BUCHTEL

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Frank and Rossie Buchtel of Princeton, MO. It's been 40 years since the

Buchtels retired from teaching, and they're still going strong. Frank turned 100 on July 2, and he and Rossie celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary on August 26. In light of these important milestones, the Rotary Club in Princeton is renaming its scholarship in honor of Frank. Additionally, Mercer County, MO, has designated September 28, 2004, as a day to honor both Frank and Rossie Buchtel.

Rossie's family had long been established in the area when Frank accepted a teaching and coaching position in Princeton in 1927. Rossie's parents were long-time Princeton residents, and her grandparents were pioneer citizens of Mercer County. Frank had an immediate impact on Princeton though, as he coached the Princeton football Tigers to an undefeated season in 1928. After that unbelievable season, Frank probably thought that life couldn't get much better, but he soon fell in love with Rossie; they were married in 1929. Shortly after their wedding, the Buchtels set out for Scottsbluff, NE, where Frank had accepted a coaching job at the junior college. Every summer, the Buchtels would venture to Evanston, IL, where Frank earned his master's degree at Northwestern University. In 1930, their daughter Barbara was born.

In 1936 Frank was appointed athletic director at Aurora College in Illinois. During the 5 years that Frank served as athletic director, Rossie completed her AB degree. Rossie's passion for library science, which she developed in Aurora, later led her to a graduate degree in the field at the University of Chicago.

In the fall of 1941, Frank, Rossie, and Barbara moved to Chicago Heights, IL. Frank served as coach and athletic director Bloom Township High School for the next 27 years, while Rossie was a librarian at a nearby school. Barbara graduated from Bloom and then DePauw University during these years. Barbara later married Elmer Duerst, and Frank and Rossie became proud grandparents of Dan and Debra, Barbara and Elmer's two children. In 1964, Frank and Rossie retired from their respective careers to settle in Princeton.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Frank and Rossie Buchtel, two remarkable citizens of Northwest Missouri who so exemplify the qualities of dedication and service. I am honored to call Frank and Rossie Buchtel constituents of Missouri's Sixth District.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO STAN SCHEER**

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to announce that this year's Kiwanis Club of Littleton Valor Award was given to Stan Scheer, the superintendent of Littleton Public Schools. He has done an excellent job in his position, working to meet the needs of the community.

Superintendent Scheer began working for Littleton Public Schools 6 years ago, and has been well received in the community for his dedication to improving the quality of education in Littleton.

The Kiwanis Club honors individuals with the Valor Award every 2 years. The proceeds

from the Valor Award reception go to provide assistance to nonprofit organizations chosen by the recipient. This year, Superintendent Scheer has asked that the proceeds be donated to the Littleton Public Schools Foundation and the Kids in Need of Dentistry.

I would like to join the Kiwanis Club in applauding Mr. Scheer's continued success and dedication as the superintendent for Littleton Public Schools, and wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

**HONORING ADA KATHERYN LEWIS ON HER 80TH BIRTHDAY**

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker I rise today to honor Ada Katheryn Lewis on her 80th birthday as well as her many years of dedication to the surrounding community.

Ms. Lewis was born September 27, 2004, in Wayne County, NC to Charles and Annie Coor. She then graduated from Atlantic Christian College, cum laude in 1945 and began teaching. Throughout her teaching career, she taught in Johnston, Franklin, Wilson, and Pitt Counties.

In 1962, Ms. Lewis received her MA in Educational Administration with honors from East Carolina University. In 1978, she was appointed assistant superintendent of Pitt County Public Schools, becoming the first-ever woman to hold such a position at that level in North Carolina.

In 1982, Ms. Lewis retired from the Public School System and became the first director of the Rural Education Institute at East Carolina University, ECU. She held this position until 1986 when she retired and became a consultant for the Institute. She holds the title of Professor Emeritus and was appointed "Visiting Lecturer" to the ECU School of Education as well as being named "Distinguished Educator."

Ms. Lewis has been recognized by virtually every appropriate institution for nearly 50 years of dedication to the education of those that were influenced by her teachings.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Ms. Lewis for her years of service to the youth of America and her dedication to the human mind. Her contributions and efforts are much appreciated and will always be remembered. Her service is an exemplary example of an ideal citizen.

**TRIBUTE TO GEORGE BLAZVICK**

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, rise today to honor George Blazvick, a Vietnam veteran who now resides in Dunnellon, Florida, within my Fifth Congressional District.

On August 19, 2004, I had the pleasure of recognizing Mr. Blazvick for his heroism and bravery as a United States soldier who served his country from September 1966 to September 1968.

After completing 10 months of service, Mr. Blazvick was injured in an unfortunate blast when an M-79 grenade exploded in close proximity to his position. He was wounded in his leg and evacuated to a military hospital in Japan. He served the remainder of his tour in Fort Benning, Georgia.

I presented Mr. Blazvick with the Purple Heart, the oldest military decoration in the world, more than 30 years overdue.

Though he earned this honor, he never received it from the Defense Department and I am honored to have had the opportunity to present to him the Purple Heart for his selfless devotion to duty and service to the United States.

**IN HONOR OF DR. PATRICIA LORRAINE BURKE MCGEEHAN**

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Patricia Lorraine Burke McGeehan for her outstanding leadership and distinguished accomplishments in education. She is being honored today, September 21, 2004, with the Mary T. Norton Memorial Award by the United Way of Hudson County at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Secaucus, New Jersey.

Dr. McGeehan began her work as an educator at the Lincoln Community School. In the years that followed, she was principal of the Mary J. Donohoe School, Robinson School, and Midtown Community School. She has been the superintendent for Bayonne Schools since 2000.

Under her leadership, the Bayonne School District has received numerous awards for excellence. Dr. McGeehan has also been instrumental in forming partnerships that have generated grant money for school programs.

She has demonstrated her commitment to education by actively participating in more than a dozen community organizations and holding advisory positions on many of the boards, such as vice-president of both the St. Barnabus Burn Foundation and the Simpson Baber Foundation for the Autistic.

For her efforts, she has been honored by both civic and community organizations. Dr. McGeehan has been presented with more than ten awards for her leadership and achievements, including NAACP's President's Award, the Jersey Journal Woman of the Achievement Award, and the Christopher Columbus Community Service Award, to name a few.

Dr. McGeehan earned a bachelor's degree in economics from the College of St. Elizabeth and received her New Jersey Supervisor/Principal's Certificate, New Jersey Administrator's Certificate and master's in elementary education from Seton Hall University. She also holds a doctorate in education/administration from Seton Hall. Dr. McGeehan is a resident of Bayonne.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Patricia Lorraine Burke McGeehan for her exemplary efforts towards improving the Bayonne City School District in New Jersey and her lifelong commitment to education and helping others.

HONORING RALPH THEODORE BROWN, SR. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate Detective Ralph Theodore Brown, Sr. as he retires after twenty-seven years of dedicated service to the Police Department of the City of West Haven, Connecticut. Through his professional career and volunteer service, Teddy has shown a unique commitment to his community.

Returning to West Haven in 1962 from four years of service as a Special Services Airman in the United States Air Force, Teddy settled with this wife, Carroll to raise their three sons. Joining the West Haven Police Department as a patrol officer in 1977, Teddy quickly moved through the ranks and was named Detective just three years later. During his career with the Department, Teddy has worked in the Youth Division and served with the Statewide Narcotics Task Force as an undercover agent. Too often, we overlook the incredible work of our local law enforcement officers. These are the men and women who dedicate themselves to protecting our families and neighborhoods. Teddy's own career has been recognized with a myriad of commendations and awards including the Medal of Merit. The West Haven community has certainly been fortunate to have such a dedicated individual working diligently on their behalf.

In addition to his professional contributions, Teddy has long been an avid volunteer in his community. From coaching "Biddy Basketball" to serving as a Commissioner for the West Haven Parks & Recreation Department, he has been a friend and mentor to hundreds of our young people. Teddy, who has served as a Deacon for over fifteen years, has also been an active member of the Dixwell Congregational United Church of Christ for over three decades. In addition to these activities, Teddy is also a founding Member of the West Haven Black Coalition, member of the West Haven Race Relations Committee, and a member of the NAACP—three organizations which have worked to build on the diversity of West Haven and create a stronger community.

Through all of his good work, Teddy has touched the lives of many. His dedicated service and unparalleled commitment to enriching his community has left an indelible mark which will serve as an inspiration to others. For his many contributions—both professional and volunteer—to our community, I am proud to stand today and join his wife, Carroll; sons, Teddy, Jr., Erik, and Shawn; grandchildren, Shane and Camryn; as well as the many family, friends and colleagues who have gathered to congratulate and extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Ralph Theodore Brown, Sr. as he celebrates his retirement. My very best wishes for many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING THE SYRACUSE ALL-STAR BABE RUTH BASEBALL TEAM

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the Syracuse All-Star Babe Ruth baseball team. On August 21, the team won the Babe Ruth baseball 16-year-old World Series in Loudoun County, Virginia, for the second consecutive season.

As Middle Atlantic Regional Champions, the Syracuse All-Stars competed against the best Babe Ruth players from around the country in the World Series tournament. Their victory is a testament to their hard work, determination, and competitive spirit throughout the entire season. It is also a continuation of the Central New York tradition for producing some of the best young baseball talent in the country, and the teams own winning tradition.

I congratulate the members of the Syracuse All-Star Team, their coaches, their parents, families and friends. They have earned the pride and admiration of all of Central New York not only through their victories but also through their demonstration of hard work, good sportsmanship, and fair play. The team's continuing success and their impressive back-to-back Babe Ruth World Series championships deserve the recognition of this House and the nation at large. I am proud that such a talented group of young athletes come from my Congressional District, and again I offer them my sincerest congratulations.

RECOGNIZING JACOB STAVES FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Staves, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Jake currently attends Liberty High School and Chandler Baptist Church, and will receive his Eagle Scout Award on September 12, 2004.

Jake has been very active with his troop by participating in many Scout activities, earning numerous merit badges, and serving in a variety of leadership positions. He has held such positions as Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, as well as Troop Guide. He has earned the World Conservation Award and is BSA Lifeguard Certified. In addition to these accomplishments, Jake is a member of both honor camping programs, Order of the Arrow and the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. For his Eagle Scout project, Jake once again displayed his dedication to service by leading a group of Boy Scouts to build and install a sign for Chandler Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Staves for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for

his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

REPLIES TO TOBACCO INDUSTRY MAILINGS

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, the tobacco industry distributes millions of coupons, surveys, and offers in the mail to its prospective customers. Sometimes, these customers or their loved ones write back. For years, these letters have been buried in secret industry files. As a result of tobacco litigation, they are now available to read on the internet.

Here are a few examples:

One New Jersey wife wrote, "Please do not send anything about smoking. My husband . . . does not smoke any more. He has emphysema as a direct result of smoking. He is terminally ill. He will not get better and will eventually die from a lack of oxygen. . . . [he] is only 57 years old."

An Arizona husband wrote, "My wife of 28 years has been diagnosed with terminal lung cancer, caused by use of your product. . . . She is unable to go to the mailbox, much less read your self-serving propaganda."

A son or daughter in New York wrote, "This is to let you know that you can never get to know my father any better—he died from emphysema because of smoking most of his life. My mother, who passed away four months prior to my Dad, and never smoked, had the lungs of a smoker because of living with him all her life. Don't ever send literature like this to me again. . . . You have my permission to use this in your advertising program."

A mother in Texas wrote, "I will be delighted to tell you about my daughter. . . . She lost her life to lung cancer at the age of 40. Caused from smoking. . . . Hope you think again before you send out such a letter. You don't know how you hurt someone who has lost a loved one. A grieving mother."

I urge all my colleagues to read these letters. You can find many of them on a new web site run by nurses called [www.nightingalesnurses.org](http://www.nightingalesnurses.org), and you can also search for more at <http://legacy.library.ucsf.edu/index.html>.

TRIBUTE TO ST. JOHN AME CHURCH

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the members of St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church in Jersey City, New Jersey. On Sunday, September 26, 2004, they will be celebrating 60 years of community ministry with a re-dedication ceremony.

St. John AME Church was founded in May 1944 and its members have served the people of Jersey City through their outreach to children, families, and seniors; their involvement in neighborhood initiatives; and their dedication to meeting the needs of the community in which they live.

They worked with the Communipaw Avenue Block Association and the Jersey City Landmarks Conservancy to restore the historical Rev. Dr. F. Webb Park, and they are a member of the Communipaw Avenue Block Association and Garden Club. They have developed a Spiritual and Social Plan dealing with fair housing, financial problems, and other neighborhood matters. They have been active in the Morris Canal Redevelopment Area Development Coalition Plans and have planted trees in local parks.

St. John AME Church has developed a Voter Education and Registration Project and Database, and is building a Community and Cultural Center for Senior Citizens and Youth. They have an Uplifting the Brotherhood of Men Ministry for fathers and their children, a cell phone ministry for battered women, an Outreach Golden Senior Citizen ministry, and are a member of the Today I Must Excel (TIME) program for Inner City families and youth.

They have a DSL computer lab for children and have developed an Adult and Youth Job Training Center. Every year they hold a Health Fair addressing minority health matters, an October Harvest Feast for Community Youth and their families, and a Profound Black Leaders Lecture Series.

Under the leadership of Rev. Charles W. McNeill, Jr., these outstanding citizens continue to fulfill the legacy of community service that St. John AME Church has exemplified for the last 60 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me as I recognize these men and women who are dedicated to making our community a better place, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in sending our best wishes for many, many more years of service and ministry.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF BERNARD BARUCH HOUSES' 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Bernard Baruch Houses Tenant Association located in the Lower East Side of Manhattan.

As the largest New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) development in Manhattan—Bernard Baruch Houses provides homes for over 2,000 residents in our city. They also offer amenities that serve nearly 200 senior citizens and disabled residents.

The Bernard Baruch Houses Tenant Association is a well-known presence in our community, and continues its work to strengthen ties with its residents on a daily basis. This association truly exemplifies neighborhood cooperation, enhancing the opportunity for each and every New Yorker to live in a safe, affordable home.

The Bernard Baruch Houses has been instrumental in providing families throughout New York City with reliable and responsible services. Their buildings have served our city's families, elderly and disabled for the past 50 years.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bernard Baruch Houses Tenant Association

on their 50th anniversary, and join with my colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize their service within the New York City community.

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL WEEK OF ACTION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the National Week of Action for Immigrant Rights. Scheduled for Monday, September 20, 2004, through Sunday, September 26, 2004, hundreds of community activists will mark the National Week of Action by holding rallies, visiting Congressional offices, and hosting educational events throughout the United States to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the historic Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride and highlight the need for comprehensive immigration reform.

It has been nearly one year since hundreds of immigrant workers and their supporters traveled throughout the United States as part of the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride. Modeled after the Freedom Rides of the 1960's, the 2003 Freedom Riders raised awareness about the unjust realities of our current immigration policies and urged fair treatment of immigrant workers. I was proud to introduce House Resolution 384, cosponsored by fifty of my colleagues, to honor the Freedom Riders for their courageous campaign and to encourage President Bush and Congress to enact policies that support the goals of the Freedom Ride.

This year's National Week of Action will highlight again the need to reform our broken immigration system. Advocates will urge passage of H.R. 4262, the Safe, Orderly Legal Visas and Enforcement (SOLVE) Act, H.R. 3142, the Agricultural Job Opportunity, Benefits and Security (AGJOBS) Act, and other legislation which would fix our immigration system while honoring our tradition as a nation of immigrants and strengthening our national security.

The National Week of Action includes a fast by students and supporters to highlight the need for passage of S. 1545, the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, and H.R. 1684, the Student Adjustment Act. I am a proud original cosponsor of H.R. 1684, bipartisan legislation to open the doors of higher education to immigrant students who work hard and deserve the opportunity to attend college and pursue the American dream.

Throughout our nation's history, we have welcomed immigrants to this country. We should continue to honor this tradition and recognize the enormous economic and cultural contributions that immigrants have made to our nation.

I commend the New American Opportunity Campaign (NAOC) for spearheading the National Week of Action and honor the commitment of its supporters to ensure equal rights for all people. I encourage my colleagues and the American public to use the National Week of Action to learn more about our immigrant community and the need for reform of our immigration system.

IN HONOR OF MRS. KAREN COOPER'S 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR SOLDIERS AND OUR NATION

**HON. JACK KINGSTON**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Karen A. Cooper consistently displayed outstanding service to this Nation as she served the United States Army for over forty years. Her distinguished public service began in 1964. Mrs. Cooper will end her dedicated service to the United States in 2004 as the Administrative Assistant for the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Housing). Her insight and grasp of administrative procedures and knowledge of her job enabled her to insure the successful completion of all tasks with the United States Army Secretariat. Through Mrs. Cooper's diligence and exceptionally high degree of professionalism and technical abilities, she made a marked improvement in Army installations for soldiers, Army families, and civilian employees.

#### 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILDERNESS ACT

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month we celebrated the 40th Anniversary of an historic piece of legislation, the Wilderness Act, which was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on September 3, 1964. Since the Act's inception, over 105 million acres of our collective natural heritage has been protected under the wilderness designation.

This week, as we take time to recognize the accomplishments of the Wilderness Act, we must also recognize the work that has yet to be done. Throughout the nation, there are many more wilderness areas that have yet to fall under the full protection of the Wilderness Act—places like the Arctic Coastal Plain, Utah's Redrocks wilderness, and the Northern California Coastal wilderness.

We must continue our efforts to safeguard these existing natural habitats from human exploitation and development in order to protect threatened and endangered species and to ensure the long-term health and vitality of the entire ecosystem.

And I believe that as a global community, we must quickly recognize the dramatic impact that human development has made on our natural environment and work to reduce the human footprint that we leave behind on the world.

#### IN HONOR OF HERBERT JULES FRIEDMAN

**HON. JIM DAVIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Herbert Jules Friedman, a man who



dedicated his life to helping others, and who left his mark of generosity on the Tampa Bay community.

After fighting in World War II's Battle of the Bulge as part of the 106th Infantry Division, Herb moved to Tampa. Always a hard worker, with a knack for business, Herb started Southern Mill Creek Products and quickly found success in the agricultural chemicals and equipment manufacturing industry.

Herb was always willing to share his success with others. His employees will remember their boss for his big heart and generous spirit. And members of the Berkeley Preparatory High School football team will remember how Herb always made sure there were summer jobs available for them.

But Herb may be best remembered for the many charitable and cultural organizations that he supported. The members of the Tampa Bay Wheelchair Athletic Association will never forget the year that Herb took 17 wheelchair athletes on a free Las Vegas vacation, or the many other ways that he supported their organization. Nor will the West Tampa Pony League Baseball Team forget the year that Herb donated funds to pay for new uniforms and equipment. These are just a few of the ways that Herb shared his joy for life with those less fortunate.

Herb also served as a board member for the Tampa Philharmonic Orchestra, the University of Tampa Board of Fellows, the Berkeley Preparatory School and Congregation Schaarai Zedek, of which he was a member for 55 years. Herb was also an active member of the Rotary Club of Tampa.

But even with all of these activities, Herb always made time for his family. On behalf of the entire Tampa Bay community, I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to Herb's beloved wife, Nell, and their four children, who made Herb so proud. Herb always did right by you, and by our entire community. We thank you for sharing his kindness and charity with us all.

#### THANKING MR. LAURICE WALTON FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

#### HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement in September 2004, we rise to thank Mr. Laurice Walton for 29 years of outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Laurice began his career at the House working as a Computer Systems Analyst and then was promoted to a Senior Systems Analyst. In that capacity Laurice has served this great institution for the last 29 years as a valuable employee of House Information Resources (HIR) within the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. During his career, Laurice has made significant contributions to support the tracking of legislation in the House. He developed the Summary of Proceedings and Debate (SOPAD) and the Congressional Budget Office Early Warning systems. SOPAD was eventually replaced by the Legislative Information Management System (LIMS) used by the Office of the Clerk to collect, record and report official legislative infor-

mation on House floor proceedings and the progress of bills through the legislative process. Laurice individually developed the LIMS Reports Due to Congress application. He also produced the quarterly Member Profiles and provided support for the daily operation of LIMS.

Laurice has displayed great passion for his work and dedicated himself to ensuring that the needs of his customer, the Clerk's office of Legislative Computer Systems, are met to its satisfaction.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Laurice for his many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U. S. House of Representatives. We wish Laurice many wonderful years in fulfilling his retirement dreams.

#### HONORING THE CITY OF WALLED LAKE

#### HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the City of Walled Lake, Michigan on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Founded on December 7, 1954 the beautiful City of Walled Lake is noted for its bustling community of some 7,000 residents enveloped by a country atmosphere. The City of Walled Lake's caring citizens, diligent community leaders, superior schools, vibrant economy, and proud heritage constitute an exceptional civic life for its citizens.

The City of Walled Lake's rich history dates back to 1830, when two men by the names of King and Prentice established a trading post for Native Americans on the lake's eastern shore. Soon, in 1838 a general store to be established here William R. Adams; and in 1834, Ms. Fanny Tuttle taught in the first log cabin school.

The twentieth century saw the city serve as home to the Walled Lake Amusement Park, the abode of the Flying Dragon, the Pretzel, the Tilt-a-Wheel, the Rocket Ride, as well as the Walled Lake Casino where all of the name bands played—Red Nichols and the Dorsey Brothers, Les Brown, Harry James, Vaughn Monroe, Lawrence Welk, and Chuck Berry. Today, the City of Walled Lake has truly created a blend of old time charm with new and continued growth for its residents and its business community.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask you and my esteemed colleagues to please join me in congratulating the citizens of the City of Walled Lake on their very special anniversary.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE INTER- NATIONAL MARTIAL ARTS COL- LEGE OF THE UNITED STATES

#### HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the International Martial Arts College of the United States, founded in Pennsylvania's 19th Congressional District.

The original International Martial Arts College (IMAC) was created in 1993 in St. Petersburg, Russia with a mission of bringing countries together to promote peace and cross cultural exchange through the universal medium of athletics. Over the last 11 years, competitions sponsored by IMAC have grown from several hundred participants to the largest competition in the world.

When IMAC sought a team from the United States, Master Tony Abel of York, Pennsylvania became the coach and team Captain and remains in both capacities today. Recognizing the importance of the United States role as ambassadors, an international tournament was held in York in 1995 and attended by many countries. Master Abel also officially formed a Board of Directors for the United States chapter of IMAC that same year.

To this day, international competition through IMAC continues, benefiting not only the participants but also helping to break down the barriers of culture and language. IMAC anticipates a future role in the Olympics where representatives, including residents of my District, will be able to compete. I wish them well in the years ahead, and I applaud their devotion to their sport and to international goodwill.

#### IN HONOR OF CAPT. DALE A. LUMME

#### HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize and honor the service and career of Captain Dale A. Lumme as he retires after 24 years of distinguished service in support of our Nation. Throughout his career, Captain Lumme has epitomized the Navy's core values of honor, courage and commitment, and has displayed exceptional leadership, providing a lasting contribution to the future capability and readiness of the U.S. Navy.

A 1980 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Captain Lumme first served as an intern in the office of the Chief of Naval Operations. Following this internship, he departed for Pensacola, Florida, where he was selected for flight training. In less than 2 years he was pinned on the coveted Navy Wings of Gold and embarked on a career as a Navy Helicopter Pilot.

In the following 4 years, Captain Lumme was stationed in San Diego, California with the Sea Snakes of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 33, where he made deployments on the USS *Leftwich*, the USS *Robert E. Peary* and the USS *David R. Ray*.

Following these deployments, in 1986, Captain Lumme was chosen as the Flag Lieutenant to Admiral Paul Miller, the Commander of U.S. Seventh Fleet, Yokosuka, Japan. An internship with the Joint Chiefs of Staff followed, and he completed his shore duty with a position in the Office of Legislative Affairs.

By December of 1989, the aviator was ready to get back to sea, and this time with far greater responsibility. Capt. Lumme spent 3 years in San Diego, California, followed by 2 subsequent years in Atsugi, Japan deploying on a variety of Naval Ships as the helicopter detachment Officer in Charge. He divided his



time between the USS *Chosin*, the USS *O'Brien*, the USS *Elliot*, the USS *Curts*, the USS *Bunker Hill*, the USS *Mobile Bay* and the USS *Carl Vinson*.

Capt. Lumme then went back to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in June of 1994 for 3 years with the National Military Command Center. In 1997, he was chosen for squadron command, and he returned to Pensacola for a tour as Executive Officer and then Commanding Officer of Training Squadron SIX. After 3 years, he joined CINCLANTFLEET as Admiral Clark's Executive Assistant and Flag Secretary, followed by the role of Commanding Officer for CLF Shore Activities Staff.

In July of 2000, he became Deputy EA for the Chief of Naval Operations. Capt. Lumme's career culminated with his assignment to the prestigious and rewarding role of the Director of the Navy Liaison Office to the House of Representatives, where his exceptional leadership and skills were invaluable to the Secretary of the Navy, the Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of Legislative Affairs.

His steadfast leadership and superb performance have won him numerous awards, including the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, three Meritorious Service Medals, three Joint Service Commendation Medals, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, three Navy Commendation Medals and the Navy Achievement Medal.

Capt. Lumme completes his distinguished and honorable career leaving an impression of his inspiring leadership, a mastery of national defense issues and all-encompassing support for the Navy's combat readiness, programs, and quality of life.

I am pleased to recognize and thank Dale Lumme for his long and dedicated service to this country and join with his friends and colleagues in wishing him "Fair Winds and Following Seas" as he, his wife Roxanne and their two daughters, Reagan and Lauren leave the Navy after 24 years of remarkable contribution and service.

#### MAHONING VALLEY SCRAPPERS WIN NY-PENN LEAGUE TITLE

#### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend special recognition to the Mahoning Valley Scrappers, a Division I-A minor league baseball team located in Niles, Ohio, which won the 2004 New York-Penn League Championship for the first time in its 6-year history.

On Monday September 13, the Scrappers claimed the title after defeating the Tri-City Valley Cats 4-2 in a two-game sweep. The Scrappers finished the year with a 42-34 record, with new manager Mike Sarbaugh at the helm.

The Scrappers, an affiliate of the Cleveland Indians major league baseball franchise, averaged more than 4,100 spectators per game this year, placing the team near the top third in its league for attendance.

I commend the team for its extraordinary achievements and join with my community to thank the players and the organization for bringing America's favorite pastime home to the Mahoning Valley.

#### INTRODUCING RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE COMMITMENT TO INCREASE WORLDWIDE ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

#### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, two years ago this month, over 18 nations came together at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg and made a commitment to increase worldwide access to clean water and sanitation.

Today, I introduced a bipartisan resolution to affirm the commitments made by the United States in Johannesburg, recognize efforts made to meet this commitment, and call for a greater effort by the U.S. and all developed nations towards meeting this public health, economic development, and environmental challenge. Original cosponsors of this resolution are CHRISTOPHER SHAYS, GEORGE MILLER, JAMES GREENWOOD, TOM ALLEN and MARK UDALL.

In 2002, 17 percent of the world's population lacked access to safe drinking water and 42 percent had no access to basic sanitation. Between 2 million and 5 million people die each year because of this lack of clean water and sanitation, including 4,000-10,000 children every day.

The resolution is supported by CARE, the Natural Resources Defense Council, MercyCorps, the National Wildlife Federation, Living Water International, and WaterPartners International.

#### HONORING OLYMPIC ATHLETE RYAN LOCHTE

#### HON. TOM FEENEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I note the Olympic accomplishments of Ryan Lochte, a constituent of mine from Port Orange, Florida.

For swimmers, the Olympics represent the ultimate contest. No other swimming meet rises to that level of competition. In his first Olympic event, 20-year-old Ryan Lochte earned the gold.

That event was the Men's 4 x 200 meter Freestyle Relay—one of the most exciting finishes in the 2004 Summer Olympics. Here, the underdog American team of Ryan Lochte, Michael Phelps, Peter Vanderkaay, and Klete Keller faced an Australian team that dominated this event for several years.

After Michael Phelps gave the Americans a one-second lead in the first leg, Ryan Lochte and Peter Vanderkaay extended that lead to 1.5 seconds. But Klete Keller faced the Australian legend Ian Thorpe who proceeded to cut into that lead. However, Klete Keller rose to that challenge. As a capacity crowd rose to its feet for the finish, Klete Keller touched the wall 0.13 seconds ahead of the Australian. And Ryan Lochte and his teammates won the gold.

Two days later, Ryan Lochte competed in the Men's 200 meter Individual Medley. He

came out of the final turn fifth in a field of eight. But in those last 50 meters, Ryan—swimming the freestyle, his best stroke—passed three swimmers to capture the silver and turn in his career-best time of 1:58.78.

Two proud and sacrificing parents contributed to Ryan's success. His father—Steven Lochte—is a nationally-recognized swimming coach and coaches the Spruce Creek High School team and the Daytona Beach Speed club team. Mr. Lochte pursues an untraditional coaching style that develops young swimmers at a gradual pace. Thus, his protégés blossom at the critical age of late teens and early 20s and avoid the burnout experienced by many young athletes. Mr. Lochte personally witnessed his son's feats in Athens.

Ryan's mother—Ileana Lochte—taught Ryan how to swim. She's a typical swim team mother who has traveled to hundreds of meets and been her son's biggest cheerleader. Ms. Lochte stayed home when Ryan went to Athens because school had started for Ryan's younger siblings. But she was standing by the pool at the Port Orange YMCA when her cell phone rang with the news of Ryan's gold medal win.

Ryan adds to the Gator legacy while attending the University of Florida and is an 11 time All American swimmer. He has brought much pride to his family, teammates, and his community.

#### ON RELEASE OF THE FINAL REPORT OF THE U.S. COMMISSION ON OCEAN POLICY

#### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, five months ago yesterday, the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy released a Preliminary Report outlining the imperiled state of our oceans. Yesterday, the U.S. Commission moved our country one step closer to being better stewards of our oceans by submitting to the President and to Congress a Final Report on "everything oceans." This comprehensive document makes recommendations on a wide range of topics, from improving governance of ocean resources to promoting greater marine stewardship and education, from recognizing the need to manage the oceans on an ecosystem basis to suggesting greater exploration of unknown areas of the sea, from discussing reform of fisheries management to arguing for increases in our marine science research budget, and from speaking to the connections between coastal land uses and the oceans to implementing an integrated ocean observation system.

Submission of the Final Report of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy is truly an historic event. It has been more than 30 years since we, as a nation, have evaluated our relationship with the sea. I sincerely hope that our evaluation does not get ignored, but instead serves as a springboard for increased protection of this country's largest public trust resource.

The U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy was mandated by the Oceans Act of 2000, legislation on which I am an original cosponsor and which is based on bills that I initially introduced in 1997 and 1999. In the Oceans Act,

we gave the Commissioners an enormous task and today I want to recognize the efforts of the 16 Commissioners, 26 Advisors, and countless staff who helped to create such a comprehensive report. All of these people have spent a large portion of the past five months reading comments on the Preliminary Report provided by Governors, tribal interests, non-governmental organizations, and members of the public—not a small task. I am sure that the Commission's excitement over the release of the Final Report, an endeavor embarked upon roughly three years ago, approximates the thrill felt by those of us who love, care deeply about, and want to protect the oceans.

The Final Report of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy details the crises facing our oceans. Building on the Preliminary Report, the Final Report includes refinements in a few areas: the funding mechanism is provided in detail, marine cultural heritage is included, more attention is given to how climate change will affect the oceans, the intent to include all coastal areas such as the Great Lakes and Territories is clarified, and the important role that states should play in protecting ocean resources is emphasized.

While we have many crises—at home and abroad—that require our immediate attention, we cannot overlook the fact that our oceans are in a state of crisis, too. It is my sincere hope that both Members of Congress and the Bush Administration will read the U.S. Commission's Report and realize that our oceans need attention—now—and that the country is looking to us—their leaders—to act. I look forward to analyzing the President's response to the Final Report, a response that, under law, must be submitted within 90 days of today.

We all depend on our oceans and coasts, from the person who lives off the water to the person who visits once in a lifetime. The oceans provide food, jobs, vacation spots, scientific knowledge, and opportunities for reflection. Despite our inability to measure the many non-market values associated with our oceans and coasts, we are able to quantify some of the benefits they provide. For example, over a trillion dollars is added to our economy each year by ocean and coastal economies. I trust that we can all agree that this is a huge contribution; a contribution that must be protected so the returns keep coming.

Protection of our oceans will require a change of course. Unfortunately, all too often we take our oceans for granted: we underestimate their value and we ignore the negative consequences human-related activities can have on them. Our oceans represent the largest public trust resource in the U.S. and cover an area nearly one and a half times the size of the continental United States. Americans expect the Government to safeguard this vast resource and I hope that the Final Report will be the impetus for us to actually begin to do so.

Simply put, our current ocean and coastal management system, created over thirty years ago, is archaic and incompatible with new knowledge about how the oceans and coastal waters function as a whole. Our policies are fragmented, both institutionally and geographically. For example, Mr. Speaker, today we find ourselves with over ten federal departments involved in the implementation of more than 130 ocean-related statutes. It is time to reconsider this incoherent and oftentimes incom-

patible management situation and bring order to our ocean governance structure. The U.S. Commission's Report offers some guidance on how to do just this.

One of the biggest advances in our understanding of oceans to occur since our last national review of ocean policy is that the natural world functions as ecosystems, with each species intricately connected to the other parts that make up the whole. The U.S. Commission's Final Report, as well as the independent Pew Oceans Commission Report released in June of 2003, clearly states that we must adopt a new policy framework that is based on the concept of "the whole," an ecosystem-based approach rather than one based on political boundaries. This approach will not be as easy or straightforward as our previous approaches, but we must dedicate ourselves to making it a reality. With a comprehensive national ocean policy explicitly written to maintain healthy ocean ecosystems, our oceans will be a bountiful resource in which we can all take pride.

The Final Report released yesterday also stresses the importance of instilling a new ecosystem-based stewardship ethic. Involved in instilling this ethic is increasing ocean-related education for all Americans at all levels, from first-graders learning how to read to graduate students investigating intricate scientific processes. The U.S. Commission details suggestions on how we can instill a new stewardship ethic by emphasizing and investing in greater marine science education. I see this recommendation—that of committing ourselves to teaching people about all aspects of the oceans and how our activities can have negative consequences for ocean ecosystems—as being fundamental to ensuring a better future for our oceans.

It is up to each of us to not let this unprecedented opportunity pass us by—we cannot wait any longer to clean up this mess we have created for our oceans. On this point both the Pew and U.S. Commission reports are adamant: we must rethink the way we look at the oceans. We are at a turning point in oceans management and we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to take the momentum created by the two ocean reports and make long lasting changes to protect our seas.

Within the Legislative Branch, I have been working to bring attention to oceans issues. I worked with my fellow co-chairs of the bi-partisan House Oceans Caucus, Mr. JIM GREENWOOD (R-PA), Mr. TOM ALLEN (D-ME), and Mr. CURT WELDON (R-PA), to introduce a comprehensive oceans bill, H.R. 4900 (informally known as OCEANS-21). OCEANS-21 answers the calls of the Pew and U.S. Commissions by establishing a clear national oceans policy and by providing a framework for addressing the many problems outlined in the reports. I hope that those in the majority party will recognize the bi-partisan nature of OCEANS-21 and give it consideration during this session of Congress. In addition to my efforts on H.R. 4900, I am working closely with Mr. RAHALL, Ranking Member of the House Resources Committee, on his efforts to implement those recommendations from the Pew and U.S. Commissions that address management of our nation's fishery resources (H.R. 4706). The specific elements of this bill include separating the biological science from the allocation decisions, implementing conflict of interest requirements for members of the

fishery councils, and broadening representation on the councils. I am also the lead sponsor on H.R. 4100, a bill that addresses the problem of pollution from cruise ships, and am a cosponsor of both H.R. 4897, a bill to protect deep sea corals, and H.R. 5001, a bill to establish an ocean observation pilot project that will move us closer to having an integrated ocean observation system. Individual members of the House of Representatives have been working hard to introduce legislation that implements the changes needed to ensure that the oceans we pass to the next generations are oceans that we can be proud of. We are now looking to the House leadership to consider our bills and to make good on the collective responsibility we have to future generations.

Within the Executive Branch, the Bush Administration has a prime opportunity to take the steps necessary to instill a new ocean ethic in our government. In fact, Pew and U.S. Commission recommendation-based action by this Administration could very well save our largest public trust. The time for leadership is now. I am dedicated to providing it in Congress, with the help of my fellow Oceans Caucus co-chairs and other colleagues concerned about ocean issues, and I hope the President will provide it in the White House.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close with a quote from the Final Report that encapsulates my thoughts on the importance of yesterday's historic occasion:

The responsibility of our generation is to reclaim and renew the oceans for ourselves, for our children, and—if we do the job right—for those whose footprints will mark the sands of beaches from Maine to Hawaii long after ours have washed away.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to dedicate themselves to shaping a better future for our oceans.

## HONORING THE ACADEMY OF TEJANO ARTISTS AND MUSICIANS

**HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives, I wish to recognize the Academy of Tejano Artists and Musicians, also known as the "Tejano Academy," for mobilizing a unified effort and creating this organization headquartered in San Antonio, Texas. The Tejano Academy is a unique musician-led organization that is committed to ensuring that artists and musicians have a voice of advocacy in the entertainment industry.

The Tejano Academy is the first organization of its kind in the Tejano Music Industry to encourage its membership to recognize and honor talent without relying on record sales, airplay, or any other type of monetary gain in an effort to diversify and elevate music standards. By diversifying categories, they are able to bring due recognition to artists and musicians who have been continuously overlooked and subsequently, educate the public about Tejano music.

The success of the Tejano Academy is due to the great leadership of the following Board Members: Donald Garza, President; Zeke Martinez, 1st Vice President; David Lee

Garza, 2nd Vice President; Stefani Montiel, 3rd Vice President; Sasha Sullivan, Secretary; Steve Roth; and Gibby Escobedo, Parliamentarian. Additionally, the Tejano Academy would not have been realized without the hard work, unwavering commitment and long hours persevered by Executive Director, Chayo Zaldivar. With this great team's continued hard work, the Tejano Academy is filling an important void in the Tejano Music Industry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to recognize the many achievements and services provided by the Academy of Tejano Artists and Musicians. Please join me in honoring the Tejano Academy on September 19, 2004 for their 1st Annual Awards Presentation and Banquet.

#### THE KANSAS-PARAGUAY PARTNERSHIP

#### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, August 1, 2004 a devastating fire engulfed the Ycuá Bolaños supermarket in Asunción, Paraguay, resulting in 399 deaths and many more injuries. In light of the long-standing relationship between the State of Kansas and Paraguay, on behalf of the citizens of Kansas' Third Congressional District, and on behalf of all Kansans, I wish to express our deep condolences to the citizens of Paraguay after this time of national tragedy.

The Kansas Paraguay Partnership was started 36 years ago as part of the international Partners of the Americas, headquartered in Washington, D.C., in which states in the United States are paired with countries or regions in Latin America and the Caribbean. The cross cultural pairing between Paraguay and Kansas is one of 60 partnerships throughout the Americas whose linkages provide assistance when help is needed.

The relief effort in the aftermath of the fire was directed and carried out by volunteers from Partners of the Americas' Paraguayan chapter with assistance from its counterpart chapter here in Kansas. All firemen in Paraguay are volunteers and depend to a great extent on donated equipment. Efforts are currently underway in both Paraguay and Kansas to replace the fire equipment which was lost in fighting the fire.

Partners of the Americas is today one of the largest private sector networks of volunteers in the Western Hemisphere. It mobilizes citizens to serve as a grassroots, people-to-people catalyst for change. Volunteer initiatives have resulted in a rich array of programs, such as the Kansas-Paraguay efforts to strengthen citizen participation and improve farming operations, as well as increasing understanding through cultural and educational exchanges. This unique, twofold approach has turned thousands of ideas into creative action across borders.

Mr. Speaker, I know that all members of this House join with me in sharing our support with the people of Paraguay during this difficult time.

#### RECOGNIZING REPRESENTATIVE D.J. DAVIS

#### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, Missouri State Representative D.J. Davis is retiring at the end of the year. He has served the people of the 122nd district since 1996.

A graduate of North Andrew High School in Rosendale, Missouri, Representative Davis graduated with a bachelor of science degree in secondary education from Northwest Missouri State University in 1962 and a master's degree in secondary administration in 1970. Before serving in the Missouri House of Representatives, Representative Davis worked in the field of education for more than 30 years. He retired as the principal of Odessa High School in Odessa, Missouri.

As an educator, Representative Davis was recognized for his contributions to the field. He received the Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals Silver Service Award in 1991 for 25 years as a secondary school principal. Additionally, he received awards from the Lafayette County Farm Bureau, the Mighty MO 4-H Club, the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education and the AARP.

Mr. Speaker, whether as an educator or a legislator, Representative Davis has worked on behalf of others and is truly a role model for young Missourians. He has made important contributions to both fields. I know my fellow Members of the House will join me in thanking him for his many years of service and in wishing him all the best in the years ahead.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE EMERGENCY LOAN ABUSE PREVENTION ACT OF 2004

#### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Emergency Loan Abuse Prevention Act of 2004, along with my colleagues, Representatives VAN HOLLEN and GEORGE MILLER. Through a loophole in the Higher Education Act, nearly \$1 billion in special student loan subsidies will be paid by the Federal government to lenders this year, rather than used for financial aid for students. This bill closes this loophole and requires the savings to be used to increase the maximum Pell grant.

This antiquated subsidy results from an obscure provision in the Higher Education Act and its regulations which provide lenders a 9.5 percent rate of return on certain student loans. This rate of return is excessive when you consider that lenders are guaranteed approximately a 3.5 percent rate of return on other student loans.

The 9.5 percent guarantee was established in the high interest rate year of 1980. Congress intended for it to phase out of existence beginning in 1993. But through a loophole, the guarantee has continued. Both the New York Times and the L.A. Times have reported on

this loophole. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has issued a report which calls for the Department of Education to correct its regulations on this matter—an action the Bush Department of Education is refusing to take.

This special subsidy has caused a lost financial opportunity for students. Students are bearing the brunt of rising college costs and shrinking grant aid. This bill provides an opportunity to correct this problem.

Despite this issue being addressed in the last Presidential Budget, the recent reaction by the Bush Administration has been inaction and silence. Rather than eliminate the use of this provision through immediate regulation, the Bush Administration has let this special subsidy triple in the past 3 years. In FY 2001, the 9.5 percent guarantee cost American taxpayers approximately \$200 million. Now GAO and others have estimated that this cost is projected to be nearly five times greater this fiscal year. The GAO report estimates that on top of this year's near billion dollar cost, growth in the special subsidy will cost an additional \$2.8 billion in future years, if not halted immediately.

This bill closes the loophole which the Bush Department of Education and this Republican Congress has permitted to go unchecked. The amendment ends this special subsidy and expends the savings to increase the maximum Pell grant for needy students.

I urge Members to join me and others in supporting this legislation.

#### THE PRAIRIE ROSE CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION SALUTES CONSTITUTION WEEK

#### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, the week of September 17–23 has been officially designated as Constitution Week. This marks the 217th anniversary of the signing of our Constitution.

The guardian of our liberties, our Constitution established our republic as a self-governing nation dedicated to rule by law. This document is the cornerstone of our freedom. It was written to protect every American from the abuse of power by government. Without that restraint, our founders believed the republic would perish.

The ideals upon which our Constitution is based are reinforced each day by the success of our political system to which it gave birth. The success of our way of government requires an enlightened citizenry.

Constitution Week provides an opportunity for all Americans to recall the achievements of our founders, the nature of limited government, and the rights, privileges and responsibilities of citizenship. It provides us the opportunity to be better informed about our rights, freedoms and duties as citizens.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I particularly want to take note of the outstanding work of the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which is actively involved in the Third Congressional District in events this week commemorating Constitution Week. The Prairie Rose Chapter has been involved with this effort in our communities for a number of years and I commend them for doing so.

Our Constitution has served us well for over 200 years, but it will continue as a strong, vibrant, and vital foundation for freedom only so long as the American people remain dedicated to the basic principles on which it rests. Thus, as the United States continues into its third century of constitutional democracy, let us renew our commitment to, in the words of our Constitution's preamble: "form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity . . ." I know that the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution joins with me in urging all Americans to renew their commitment to, and understanding of, our Constitution, particularly during our current time of crisis, when Americans are fighting overseas to defend our liberties here at home.

RECOGNIZING REPRESENTATIVE  
BILL L. RANSALL

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, a distinguished career in the Missouri House of Representatives will soon end. Representative Bill Ransall will be retiring at the end of the year.

Rep. Ransall was elected to the Waynesville City Council in 1978. He dedicated the next 18 years to serving the people of Waynesville, taking the position of Mayor Pro Tem in 1982. He then was elected Mayor, a position he held from 1988 through 1996.

The people of the 148th district first elected Rep. Ransall to the Missouri House in 1996 and reelected him to the maximum four terms allowed under state term limits laws. His leadership was recognized in the legislature and he was elected to the post of Assistant Minority Floor Leader. His advice and counsel have been sought in the legislature and in the administration on the complex issues of the state budget and legislative procedure.

In addition to his legislative work, he has a record of service and leadership in the community—including the United Methodist Church, Association of the United States Army, Masonic Lodge No. 375 AF and AM, Abou Ben Adhem, Scottish Rite, Sojourners, Committee of Fifty, Missouri Cattlemens Association, Farm Bureau, Ducks Unlimited, and the National Wild Turkey Federation. He also has been a successful businessman and farmer.

Rep. Ransall has earned the respect of many throughout his district and the state. He received of the Outstanding Civilian Award with Medal by the Department of the Army. He also has been recognized as Legislator of the Year by the Missouri Chamber of Commerce, earned the Legislative Recognition award from the Missouri Association for Career and Technical Education, and received the Missouri Vocational Special Needs Association Distinguished Service for Community Involvement Award.

His tireless work on behalf of his constituents created many opportunities for economic expansion in the 148th district and beyond. He has been an effective advocate for his neigh-

bors in their issues with the state agencies in Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, Representative Ransall's dedication to public service is an example to us all. He has devoted many years of his life to taking care of the needs of others. I am sure the other Members of the House will join me in thanking my friend Bill for his hard work and in wishing him and his wife, Pat, all the best in the years to come.

HAITI NEEDS HELP FROM THE  
UNITED STATES—NOW

**HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address a human crisis of the highest magnitude. It demands a strong, unequivocal and immediate response from the international community and particularly from the United States.

The latest storm struck Gonaives on Saturday. So far, the only aid from the Bush Administration has been \$60,000 in relief assistance. This is just a drop in the bucket compared to the desperate need of the Haitian people. It is wholly inadequate. The Bush Administration needs to exercise leadership in coordinating immediate assistance from our own country and the international community.

While the Bush Administration is watching the development of this disaster and assessing what its response will be, thousands of Haitians are suffering. This situation demands an immediate emergency response from the United States Government.

As reported in these Miami Herald and the New York Times articles, nearly 700 lives have been lost in Haiti because of the flooding and mudslides triggered by Tropical Storm Jeanne. Already the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere, this new crisis has made conditions in Haiti even worse. And the desperate situation that Haiti faces today because of this disaster comes on top of the catastrophic floods only 4 months ago with over 3,000 Haitians killed, missing, or presumed dead.

The press has reported widespread human suffering in Haiti, with unburied bodies in the streets; hospitals and hospital equipment rendered unusable because of water and mud, grave shortages of fresh water, food and antibiotics, a very real threat of public health epidemics, and thousands without even rudimentary shelter.

The government of Haiti is totally unequipped and unable to deal with this massive crisis, because they have neither the resources nor the organization. Private voluntary groups are reportedly overwhelmed by the enormity of this crisis.

Given the gravity of this situation, in which thousands of Haitian lives hang in the balance, I call upon President Bush to immediately send significant U.S. emergency assistance to Haiti in the form of food, medicine, fresh water, clothing, and emergency shelter, and to immediately coordinate, with the international community, the manpower, transportation and distribution of these needed commodities to provide immediate relief to the people of Gonaives and the surrounding countryside.

We know from the storm damage in our own country that fast action is imperative in natural disasters; Haiti's poverty and the size and scope of the disaster there makes the need for speed even greater.

If ever there was a time when the people of Haiti need the help and support of the United States Government, it is now. I urge President Bush not to delay this aid any further, but to act immediately.

[From the Miami Herald, Herald.com,  
September 21, 2004]

STORM FLOODS KILL MORE THAN 600 IN HAITI  
(By Amy Bracken)

GONAIVES, HAITI—Rescuers dug through mud and ruined homes for bodies Tuesday, expecting the death toll of more than 600 from Tropical Storm Jeanne to rise even further, with half the crowded northern city of Gonaives still under water from the weekend's devastating winds and rain.

Gonaives was hardest hit in the latest tragedy to beset Haiti in a year of revolts, military interventions and devastating floods. Bodies, including many children, were stacked at the city's main morgue, where weeping relatives searched for loved ones.

At least 500 people were killed in the city, according to Toussaint Kongo-Doudou, a spokesman for the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Haiti.

"I lost my kids and there's nothing I can do," said Jean Estimable, whose 2-year-old daughter was killed and another of his five children was missing and presumed dead.

"All I have is complete despair and the clothes I'm wearing," he said Monday, pointing to a floral dress and ripped pants borrowed from a neighbor.

Floods are particularly damaging in Haiti, the poorest country in the Americas, because it is almost completely deforested, leaving few roots to hold back rushing waters or mudslides. Most of the trees have been chopped down to make charcoal for cooking.

Aid workers were struggling to get relief to victims amid worries over looting and crime, said Hans Havik from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

"Security is little bit tense. We have to be careful with bringing in the materials because we risk looting," Havik said.

Three trucks carrying Red Cross relief supplies rolled into Gonaives Monday, but before they could reach their destination at the mayor's office, two of them were mobbed by people who grabbed blankets and towels. U.N. troops stood by watching.

People tripped over each other to grab tiny bags of water thrown from a Red Cross truck in front of City Hall, where officials said about 500 injured were treated Monday.

Dieufort Deslorges, a spokesman for the government civil protection agency, described the situation in Gonaives as "catastrophic." He said survivors need everything from potable water to food, clothing, medication and disinfectants.

"We expect to find dozens more bodies, especially in Gonaives, as . . . floodwaters recede," Deslorges said.

Floodwaters destroyed homes and crops in the Artibonite region that is Haiti's breadbasket.

"Everyone is desperate," said Pelissier Heber of the Artibonite Chamber of Commerce.

Elsewhere, 56 people were killed in northern Port-de-Paix and 17 died in the nearby town of Terre Neuve, officials said. Deslorges of the civil protection agency reported another 49 bodies recovered in other villages and towns, most in the northwest.

Although there were fears of many more dead on La Tortue island, Deslorges said: "The government has been in contact with officials on La Tortue. Nothing happened there."

Jeanne lashed Haiti on Saturday, four months after devastating floods along the southern border of Haiti and neighboring Dominican Republic. Some 1,700 bodies were recovered and 1,600 more were missing and presumed dead.

Gonaives, a city of about a quarter million people, also suffered fighting during the February rebellion that led to the ouster of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and left an estimated 300 dead.

All this in a year supposed to be dedicated to celebrating the 200th anniversary of the country's independence from France. Haiti, the only country to launch a successful rebellion against slavery, was the world's first black republic.

Jeanne regained hurricane strength over the Atlantic on Monday but posed no immediate threat to land. At 5 a.m. Tuesday, it was moving east-northeast with 90 mph winds, about 445 miles east of Great Abaco Island in the Bahamas.

The storm entered the Caribbean last week, killing seven people in Puerto Rico before heading to the Dominican Republic where it killed at least 18. The overall death toll from Jeanne stands at 647, 622 of them in Haiti.

Waterlines up to 10 feet high showed the passage of the storm waters, which turned some roads into fast-flowing rivers.

Argentine troops who are among more than 3,000 U.N. peacekeepers in Haiti treated at least 150 people injured by the floods in Gonaives, mostly for cuts on feet and legs.

One man stood outside the flooded base used by Argentine troops, asking soldiers to remove 11 bodies that were floating in his house, including four brothers and a sister.

"I would like to see if the soldiers could do something about these bodies," said Jean-Saint Manus, a 30-year-old student. "The door was closed. Everybody was trapped inside."

He said he had been outside and could only get in once the floods subsided.

Interim Prime Minister Gerard Latortue toured flooded areas Sunday and declared Gonaives a disaster area, calling for aid. The U.S. Embassy announced \$60,000 in immediate relief.

Meanwhile, Hurricane Karl and Tropical Storm Lisa remained far out in the Atlantic. Karl's sustained winds were 140 mph, making it a Category 4 hurricane. Lisa had winds of 60 mph.

[From the New York Times, nytimes.com, Sept. 21, 2004]

#### DEATH TOLL NEARS 700 FROM HAITI FLOODING (By Reuters)

PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI (Reuters).—The death toll in Haiti from flooding and mudslides triggered by Tropical Storm Jeanne rose above 660 on Tuesday and government officials were still struggling to reach areas cut off by flood waters.

The storm swept north of Haiti during the weekend, drenching the impoverished Caribbean nation, inundating cities and sending deadly mudslides through towns and villages.

Interim Prime Minister Gerard Latortue, who declared three days of national mourning for the victims, planned to visit some of the hardest hit areas on Tuesday.

The government put the death toll from the floods at 662 people and expected the total to rise as relief workers recovered bodies and reached areas isolated by the now receding water.

The known toll included 550 deaths in the coastal city of Gonaives, 65 in Haiti's Northwest province and 47 in other towns.

"There's not one house in Gonaives that has not been affected," Latortue said before leaving Port-au-Prince to tour the city. Officials estimated half of the 200,000 residents needed immediate assistance with shelter, water and food.

The city is the birthplace of Haiti's independence from France 200 years ago and it was where an armed revolt began that led to the ouster of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide earlier this year.

Latortue's entourage hoped to land on the island of La Tortue off Haiti's north coast to assess damage there. U.N. workers said on Monday it was barely visible beneath the flood waters and rescue workers have been unable to reach it.

U.N. peacekeeping forces sent to stabilize Haiti after Aristide's departure were helping with rescue efforts and providing transportation for relief shipments.

Haiti, the poorest nation in the Americas, is frequently inundated by flash floods and mudslides because of extensive deforestation. Around 2,000 Haitians died when extensive floods washed away villages near the Dominican-Haitian border in May.

Tropical Storm Jeanne also killed 11 people in the Dominican Republic, which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti, and two in the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico.

The storm meandered in the Atlantic about 445 miles east-northeast of the Bahamas' Great Abaco Island on Tuesday but posed no immediate threat to land, forecasters at the U.S. National Hurricane Center said.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of Tuesday, September 14, 2004, the House had a vote on an amendment to H.R. 5025. On House rollcall vote No. 452, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF AN HISTORICAL LANDMARK SIGN MARKING THE RED RIVER OX CART TRAIL IN ANOKA, MINNESOTA

##### HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the dedication of an historical marker where the Red River Ox Cart Trail once passed through the city of Anoka, Minnesota.

More than 150 years ago, the Red River Ox Cart Trail served as one of the main channels used by traders from Canada into St. Paul, Minnesota. The first of many ox cart trains on this trail was brought from Canada in 1844 by Norman W. Kittson, a trader for the American Fur Company, and within 20 years an annual amount of more than \$250,000 worth of pelts, food and other goods were being transported

in this manner to St. Paul, where some of the goods would be unloaded, repacked and sent down the Mississippi River to St. Louis, Missouri for shipment east.

The carts used on this trail were unmistakable—large and wooden with six-foot wheels held together with wood pegs and rawhide, which produced a loud squealing sound that could be heard from miles away. The carts and their drivers, in their blue outfits adorned with brass buttons, red sashes and beaded caps became a familiar sight in St. Paul, where, after a 30-day trip from the Red River, the drivers would re-load their carts with food, medicine, hardware, and other goods before they returned northward.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize today's dedication of an historical marker where history literally drove through Anoka, Minnesota. The use of this trail and others like it helped create a thriving shipping economy in Minnesota, which was sustained well after ox carts were replaced by the railroads. Today's dedication is the result of much hard work. I applaud Anoka's Heritage Preservation Society in keeping a piece of Minnesota's rich history alive.

#### EPA'S GREEN POWER PARTNERS IN TEXAS' 26TH DISTRICT

##### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Green Power Partners located in the 26th District of Texas: China Star of Lewisville, East Ocean of Flower Mound, Four Seasons Dry Cleaners of Carrollton, Judy L. Kelly PC/Wellness Plus of Carrollton, Main Street Car Wash and Lube of Lewisville, Mike's Hobby Hanger of Carrollton, and Oishi Japanese Restaurant of Lewisville.

The EPA's Green Power Partnership is a voluntary program that encourages organizations to use green power as a part of best-practice environmental management. Today, the EPA recognized these Green Power Partners in Texas for their commitment to renewable energy.

Green power is beneficial renewable energy generated from natural resources; these resources are chosen due to their low environmental impact and abundant availability. Green Power Partners include commercial, industrial and community organizations that guarantee green power use as part of their yearly energy consumption. I am proud that Texas is the national leader in the number of Green Power Partners.

Renewable energy should be a part of our comprehensive national energy policy. I appreciate the important contribution that renewable energy sources make to our national energy supply, while at the same time minimizing environmental impact.

Again, I would like to commend the seven businesses located in the 26th District, as well as all of the businesses and organizations nationwide that participate in the Green Power Partnership for their dedication to environmentally friendly electricity.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DAVID  
BARTON AND WALLBUILDERS

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, September 25th a dinner gala will take place in Arlington, TX honoring the WallBuilders organization. I rise today to recognize WallBuilders and its valuable contributions to our great country.

WallBuilders is a national pro-family organization which distributes historical, legal, and statistical information that encourages people become active in their local schools and communities.

WallBuilders has been a renowned resource for educating Americans of their rich faith based heritage since 1989 when David and Cheryl Barton founded the organization. Since then, WallBuilders has produced numerous works and award-winning videos applying the lessons of our national history to contemporary issues.

WallBuilders derives its name from the Old Testament book of Nehemiah, when the nation of Israel rallied together to help rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

Sadly, the moral foundations of America have been severely shaken. As the English Statesmen Edmund Burke said, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing." Thankfully WallBuilders, under the steady leadership of David Barton, is doing something.

The dedication and devotion to the constitutional, moral, and religious foundation on which America was built remains essential for a return to original intent. I believe that a public understanding of our founding principles is vital to the continuity of our Republic.

The reach of WallBuilders extends far beyond the Texas borders. For example, David Barton's message of faith and hope impacted Congressman SCOTT GARRETT of New Jersey and his wife. At a recent event discussing his personal life, GARRETT mentioned how David Barton touched his heart and changed his life. Now that's not something you hear about every day on Capitol Hill.

We Americans share a noble past. The blood of our ancestors has given us freedom and independence. I join WallBuilders and all those attending the dinner gala in celebrating God's gift of liberty. May our resolve for defending it only be strengthened.

God bless America. God bless WallBuilders. I salute you.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "FORTIFYING AMERICA'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (FAIR) ACT"

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce, with my colleague Representative GOODLATTE, the "Fortifying America's Intellectual Property Rights (FAIR) Act"—legislation that we have worked on for some time now,

to make a number of important reforms to strengthen our fight against the scourge of global piracy.

International markets are vital to U.S. intellectual property industries, providing a strong export base that sustains American jobs. However, this important sector of the U.S. economy is under attack due to widespread patent and trademark infringement, and the unauthorized reproduction, distribution and sale of U.S.-made movies, music, software, and other creative works.

The United States is the world's largest creator, producer and exporter of copyrighted materials, accounting for over 5 percent of the U.S. GDP and adding \$531 billion to the U.S. economy. The motion picture industry estimates losses due to global piracy amount to \$3.5 billion annually, not including illegal downloading. In Russia, for example, 9 out of 10 DVDs sold are counterfeit copies. Globally, 2 in 5 music recordings are pirate copies, with annual world-wide pirate sales of music estimated at \$4-\$5 billion. The software industry estimates losses of over \$13 billion due to worldwide piracy in 2002.

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) has been charged with identifying countries that deny adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights. The negotiation of bilateral free trade agreements has proven to be an excellent mechanism for achieving legally binding bilateral obligations to address rampant international copyright piracy.

These efforts have been undertaken with only very limited resources available, and could be more effective if additional tools and resources are provided. The legislation I am introducing today with Representative GOODLATTE will make a number of reforms in the Office of the United States Trade Representative. Specifically, our legislation will establish a new USTR office dedicated exclusively to intellectual property matters, increase the resources dedicated to securing high standards of intellectual property rights protection in trade agreements and enforcing these provisions vigorously, and establish this as the lead office in the Administration for all international trade-related intellectual property matters.

The protection of our intellectual property rights abroad is vital to promoting America's competitive advantages in world commerce. As our trade deficit continues to soar, Congress must step in now to ensure that we aggressively protect our intellectual property rights at home and abroad.

STATEMENT IN HONOR OF PAT  
LYNCH

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Virginia Summers Lynch, known to her family and friends as "Pat," who passed away on August 1, 2004. Involved in politics and in her community, Pat's boundless energy and enthusiasm were an inspiration to all who knew her. She epitomized the best of San Francisco.

Pat was a fifth-generation Californian and a descendent of Spanish colonists who settled

in the Monterey area in the 18th century. She spent her childhood in the San Simeon area and then attended UC Berkeley where she met her future husband, a law student from San Francisco named Thomas Lynch. They settled in San Francisco and remained happily married until his death in 1986. Together, they had two wonderful sons whom she loved dearly.

Pat was actively involved in San Francisco's civic life. She was a founding member of JACKIE, a foster childcare organization, and she served as President of the Democratic Women of the San Francisco Bay Area. Pat was on the boards of directors for many organizations, including the Humane Society of San Francisco and the Humane Society of United States.

Pat played an integral part in her husband's demanding legal career. Thomas Lynch served as San Francisco's District Attorney and was later appointed by Governor Pat Brown to be California's Attorney General. Pat's support was crucial to her husband's success.

Loved and admired by her friends, one of Pat's most celebrated friendships was with the San Francisco Chronicle's famed columnist Herb Caen. Pat was the source of many of his items and was frequently mentioned in his column.

We thank her sons, Kevin and Michael, for sharing their magnificent mother with us. I hope it is a comfort to them that so many people share their loss and are praying for them at this sad time.

THE COMPREHENSIVE LONG TERM  
CARE SUPPORT ACT

**HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 21, 2004*

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Comprehensive Long Term Care Support Act of 2004. This Act will make it easier for families to obtain critical long-term care insurance.

As I traveled around my home state of South Dakota this August, the most common concerns I heard relate to health care needs. We sit on the verge of a new crisis in health care. Health care should not be considered a luxury for anyone—but quality, affordable care remains out of reach for far too many Americans. Medicine has moved dramatically toward treating and curing many illnesses through pharmacology and advances in technology, often avoiding the need for invasive surgical procedures. Public policy, however, still has not done enough to keep pace with these advances.

As members of Congress we must be committed to improving our health care system and directly addressing the rising cost of health insurance and prescription drugs, the high number of uninsured, and the challenges associated with long-term care.

A year in a nursing home now averages more than \$55,000, while daily home care can cost just as much. In South Dakota—where we have the nation's highest rate of women over age 85 living at or below the poverty level and the second highest rate of people over 65 living alone—the average cost of a

year in a nursing home is over \$47,000. Long-term care insurance is often the only way to meet these expenses without sacrificing one's life savings and other assets in order to qualify for Medicaid.

We know that we need to do more to make long-term care more affordable. But often lost in that discussion is the important role that adult children and other family members play in providing care for their parents. Today I introduce legislation to help alleviate the burden

of providing long-term care for our nation's families.

This legislation makes long-term care insurance premiums tax deductible—separate from itemized deductions—for those who pay the premiums for themselves, their parents, or for any other family member. It also gives a tax credit of up to \$3000 for those caregivers with an income of less than \$75,000/year who are responsible for an individual who has been certified as having long-term care needs.

Family caregivers are a critical source of care to older persons with disabilities and

chronic health problems. The unpaid and informal care they provide is an essential source of help for elders in the community. The National Family Caregiver Support Program helps caregivers obtain vital information and supportive services in their community. This legislation also doubles the authorized funding for this successful program.

Health care, including long-term care is essential for the social and economic health of our communities. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.